

**GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
MEETING SUMMARY  
June 28, 2002**

**Prepared by:**

**Department of Natural Resources**

**Office of Conservation**

**Ground Water Management Staff**

## **Call to Order**

### **Commission members in attendance:**

Karen Gautreaux, Chairman, Governor's Office

Phil Boudreaux, Commissioner of Conservation, Department of Natural Resources

Zahir "Bo" Bolourchi, Department of Transportation and Development

Jackie Loewer, Louisiana Farm Bureau

Steve Chustz, Department of Environmental Quality

Len Bahr, Governor's Office

Michael Taylor, Department of Economic Development

John Roussel, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Richard Durrett, Sparta Groundwater Conservation District

Dean Lowe, Department of Health and Hospitals

Brad Spicer, Department of Agriculture and Forestry

## **Ground Water Management Staff Report**

Mr. Duplechin, Chief of Staff, reported that an additional 55 water well information sheets have been received bringing the total to 424. Three just cause decisions were rendered, nine forms were received with less than 60-day notice, and twelve forms were received after the installation of the well.

On June 24 the staff attended a meeting of Sparta Groundwater Conservation District. Their consultant Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix, and Hixon presented a draft report on the funding and financing of alternate water supplies for the proposed critical areas of the Sparta.

The Sparta Groundwater Conservation District has also published a notice of intent to file an application to have the Sparta Aquifer declared critical in all or parts of 11 parishes.

The staff received the final Part 1 deliverable from the Commission's contractor, C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates. No comments were received during the public comment phase.

A joint oversight committee meeting will be held Monday July 1, 2002 at 10:00 a.m.

### **Consultants Report**

The consultant gave an oral presentation and entertained questions from the Commission.

### **Ground Water Management Advisory Task Force Committee Reports**

There were no subcommittee reports.

### **Old Business**

After the presentation by C.H. Fenstermaker and Associates, Inc., the Commission voted to accept Part 1 of the Statewide Water Management Plan.

A brief discussion took place regarding the brochures developed by the staff. A few minor editorial comments were given to the staff. The Commission voted to approve the brochures for public distribution pending the minor corrections.

### **New Business**

Mr. Duplechin stated that the staff was receiving numerous calls regarding test holes and if water well information sheet (WWIS) needed to be filed for each test hole. The Commission was informed that the staff was handling test holes in the following manner. If the intent was to install a water well immediately, then a WWIS did need to be filed for every well that was to be installed but not for every test hole. If the intent was to just drill a test hole for hydrogeologic or geotechnical information and then install the well at a later date then a WWIS did not have to be filed.

### **Public Comments**

Mr. Buck Vandersteen, Louisiana Forestry Association, stated that he received a letter from the Attorney General's office looking into water laws and wanted to know if this was being done in conjunction with the Commission.

Mr. Burton Guidry, Assistant Attorney General, stated that the intent of the letter was to start gathering all potential old and new legal issues to assist the commission with any possible legislation that might be submitted.

### **Schedule of the Next Meeting**

July 25, 2002 was selected as the date that the Sparta Groundwater Conservation District will submit the critical groundwater application. That meeting will be in Ruston.

Conflicts in the Commissioner's schedules prohibited a finalization of the date of the next Ground Water Management Commission meeting.